

PEKIN SITUATION VERY CRITICAL

Japanese Minister Says Legations
Are Surrounded.

MOST ANXIOUS FOR RESCUE.

Cabinet Meeting Discusses Chinese
Affairs—No Ground for Suspicion
Among Powers.

Washington, July 19.—The Japanese legation here has made public the latest communication received from Baron Nishida, the Japanese minister to Peking. This telegram was received today at the legation from the Japanese minister of foreign affairs, and is important because of the dates given. The telegram was dated July 17th, by the sender, the Japanese consul at Chefoo, and is as follows:

"I received at 10 a. m. on the 12th a dispatch from Nishida, dated Peking June 25th. The letter was brought by a special messenger—a Chinese, who left Peking July 1st, and managed to make the journey with difficulty. The substance of the letter is as follows:

SITUATION AT PEKIN.

"The situation at Peking is extremely critical. The foreign legations are surrounded on all sides by Chinese soldiers and bombarded night and day. The members of the legations, the guards and residents are resisting to the utmost, but the overwhelming numbers of the opposition hopeless; our ammunition is being exhausted, our lives are in such danger that we may be massacred at any moment. We earnestly request the immediate dispatch of reinforcements for our rescue from our precarious condition."

The Japanese consul at Chefoo adds that he communicated this letter to his colleagues of the consular body there, and also to the commanders-in-chief of the forces of the powers.

The cabinet meeting today developed nothing of importance regarding the Chinese situation except the decision to send W. W. Rockhill, formerly secretary of state, now director of the bureau of republics, to China to investigate the situation for the authorities here. Mr. Rockhill will go as a special commissioner to ascertain the extent of the responsibility of the Chinese government if any for the existing disturbances, and otherwise furnish the administration with information upon which the case of the United States against China may be decided.

The state department, however, cannot go behind their formal expressions, and can now only await results. There is not the slightest disposition on the part of our government to follow the lead of certain European powers and restrict in any measure the liberty of the Chinese minister here, Mr. Wu. In communicating with the Chinese viceroys and whatever remains of the Chinese government. On the contrary, there is an earnest desire to do everything in his power to protect foreigners in the Chinese empire, and as it is confident that he has no sympathy with the Boxer movement, the state department regards it as prudent policy to facilitate rather than to obstruct his communications with the Chinese viceroys.

NO GROUND FOR SUSPICION.

It can be stated that so far as official record discloses there is absolutely no ground for fear. Our government having fully defined its intentions in Secretary Hay's note of July 3rd, the other governments interested in the Chinese situation have entered into the spirit of the declaration, and are in perfect accord. At least that is the record both written and oral, and Russia, a power more than any other under suspicion in these stories, has not been backward in assuring the state department of its friendly attitude.

Secretary Hay's declaration with Russia's purpose in China. It is, of course, possible that some of the powers are swayed by motives that do not appear in their formal declarations.

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RUSSIA AND CHINA.

If there should be a declaration of war by Russia upon China, based upon what is said to have occurred on the Siberian border, the technical relations of the allies, powers toward China might, it is said, be seriously affected. It is believed the story of Chinese aggressiveness is considerably exaggerated so far as it relates to the Siberian border, and it is hoped the troubles have been confined to Manchuria. But if war should actually and formally open between Russia and China that fact might oblige the other powers to do one of two things—either join in the declaration of war or withdraw their forces from Chinese soil.

TIENTSIN CASTLE FALLS.

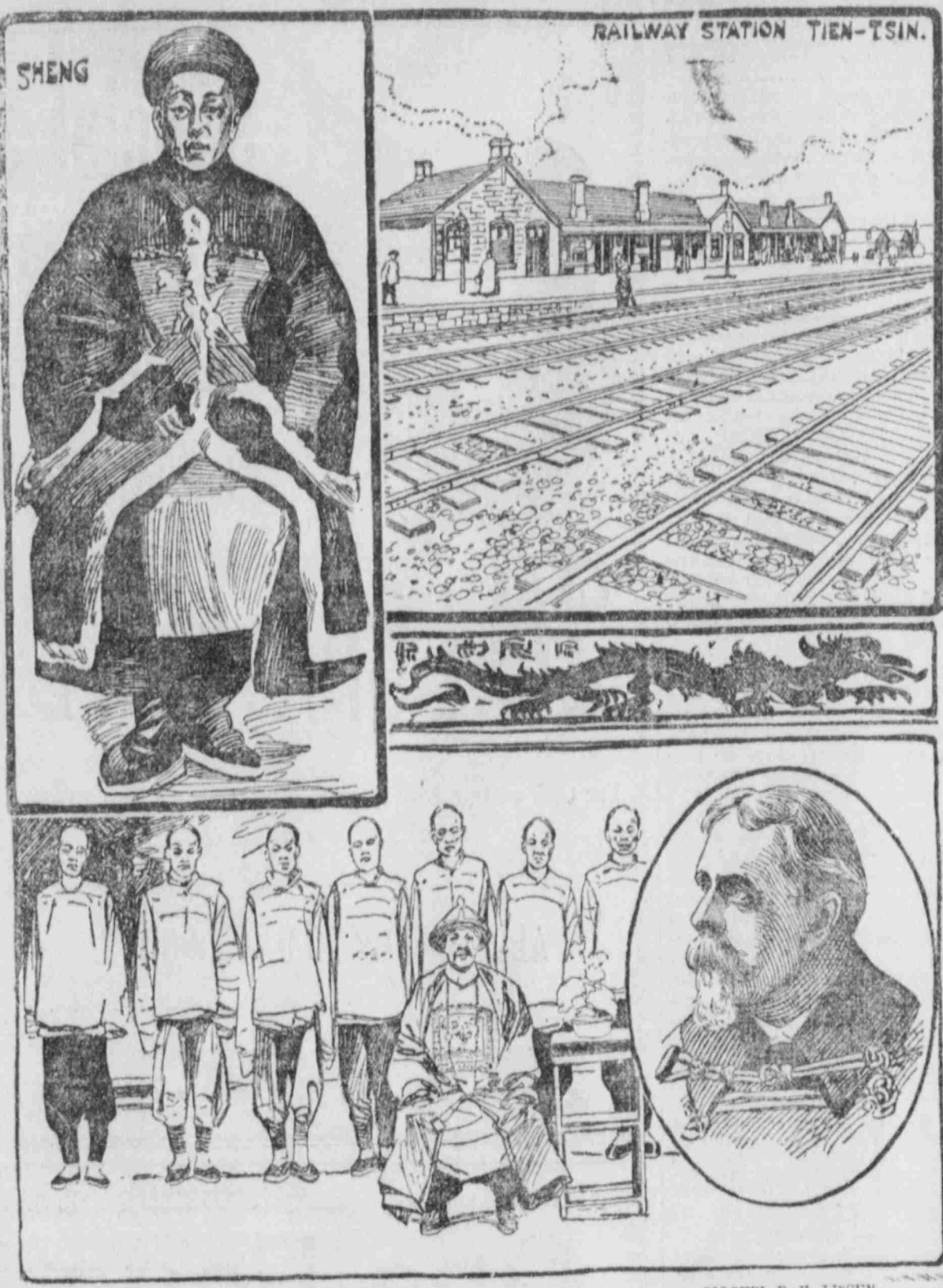
Another cablegram received through the foreign office from the Japanese general at Chefoo reports that Tientsin castle was captured by the forces of the allies on the 14th and the safety of the foreign settlements is assured. Japanese troops took possession of the Rue Ying, the Chinese naval station, on the 14th.

Among other subjects the subject of instructions to Maj.-Gen. Chaffee was discussed at considerable length, and a cablegram was drafted, which will be forwarded to reach him on his arrival at Nagasaki. The instructions are of a diplomatic as well as of a military nature, and indicate the line of policy to be pursued by the commander of the United States forces in China. The exact nature of the instructions was not disclosed.

The rank of major-general for the commander of the Chinese expedition will necessitate the presence of two or perhaps three brigadier-generals in China. These, in all probability, will be chosen from the officers of that rank who have been in the Philippines, but Gen. Chaffee will be given considerable latitude in the selection of his staff.

ROCKHILL'S APPOINTMENT.

For some reason the officials did not care to have it known that Mr. Rockhill had been selected for this responsible duty. Within a week he will have a final conference with the President and Secretary Hay, and will then leave for China. He will probably go to Yokohama, where take the Japanese line steamer for Yokohama, proceeding from that point to Shanghai. Not until he arrives at Shanghai will Mr. Rockhill undertake to outline his further course.



YUAN SHI KAI, GOVERNOR OF SHANGTUNG; COLONEL LISCUM, NINTH INFANTRY, AND SHENG, DIRECTOR OF TELEGRAPHS.

Two Chinese officials who have been conspicuous in carrying out China's apparent intention of very gradually permitting news of the Peking horror to become public are Yuan Shi Kai, governor of Shantung province, and Sheng, director of Chinese railroads and telegraphs. Colonel Emerson H. Liscum, commander of the Ninth Infantry, killed at Tientsin, was an old Indian fighter and a hero of three wars. At San Juan Hill he was wounded twice. He was a native of Vermont and a gallant officer. Much of the hard fighting has occurred around the railroad station at Tientsin.

Chinese Kill Their Wounded.

New York, July 20.—A dispatch to the World from Chefoo says:

It is reported that after the allied armies recaptured the native city of Tientsin last Saturday, their shells set fire to the town. The Chinese, before they fled, killed all their own wounded. It is reported, to prevent their falling into the foreigners' hands.

Native Chinese here reported that there are in and around Peking at least 800,000 Chinese troops, and that the Boxers are armed with the best and most modern weapons. From all sources come the same tidings that the Boxers have enormous supplies of modern arms and ammunition.

Boxer leaders had organized plans for massacring foreigners in all the treaty ports as well as in the interior, and a heavy reward was promised for each white head brought in. Rich loot was promised all.

Especially stress is laid by Tuan's generals on the opportunity the troops will have of seizing women. The story reveals the full credence of the Europeans here.

Chinese Denounce Boxers.

San Francisco, Cal., July 20.—The Chinese Reform Association of America, which has its headquarters in this city, has adopted resolutions denouncing the Boxer movement, sympathizing with the foreigners in China, and expressing a willingness to join the American troops in aiding to restore peace in the Orient.

West Point Cadets Appointed.

Washington, D. C., July 20.—Cadets of the United States Military Academy, who have been appointed during the last week from the States at large as follows:

James J. O'Hara, San Francisco; James F. Adams, alternate, San Francisco; Donald A. Robinson, Seattle; George V. Strong, Helena, Mont.; Stanley Kock, Bozeman, Mont.; Jas. A. Uile, first alternate, Fort Keogh, Mont.; Richard Z. Cummings, second alternate, Glendive, Mont.

Dewitt Clinton Haskins Dead.

Buffalo, N. Y., July 20.—Dewitt Clinton Haskins, who was once a railroad and mining speculator, and contractor of national reputation, is dead at his home in this city, aged 77 years. When the gold era in 1849 was at its height Mr. Haskins went to California, and shortly after built a railroad from Sacramento to Yuba, which has since become part of the Southern Pacific system. He was the promoter of the Great Hudson River tunnel and had been engaged in numerous similar enterprises. At one time he made \$80,000 in the later famous Emma mine in Nevada.

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VICEROYS TO THE EMPRESS

How Anger of Foreigners is to be Appeased.

ARE FIVE DIFFERENT WAYS

Wild Rumors About Russian Intrigues—Li Hung No Friend of England—Dike on the Situation.

New York, July 20.—A dispatch to the Herald from Canton, says:

The following copy of the viceroys' joint memorial, which is being signed for presentation to the dowager empress, was obtained from Li Hung Chang, previous to his departure for Peking:

"Henceforth all nations will see that our government had no intention lightly to engage in hostilities and only did so when it was found unavoidable. Their anger and resentment will, as a matter of course, be at once appeased after having respectfully considered the sentiment indicated in a decree.

THE FIVE WAYS.

"We have decided to ask that these may be enlarged on in five ways. We would ask:

"First—That a decree be issued ordering the Tartar generals and viceroys and governors to continue the usual system of affording protection to foreign merchants and missionaries, so as to show that, although hostilities are in progress, non-combatants are still under the government's protection and to display more clearly the heavenly-like mercy of the sacred throne.

"Second—The lightness or severity of the means of the foreign powers will depend solely upon the fate of their ministers. We beg that the rebels disobey the edicts and continue the attack on the legations. Foreign papers state with reference to the assassination of the German minister that the German emperor has made his troops swear revenge. All ministers abroad have telegraphed and even the telegrams from foreign sources state, as do also the consuls-generals in Shanghai, that the one thing of paramount importance is the safety of foreign ministers. If China can only save them there will be room for discussion of all matters and other nations will be able to make terms of peace for us.

"Third—We would also beg that a clearly worded decree be issued expressing the deepest and most sincere regret on the part of the Chinese government for the assassination of the German minister, and that a letter in the same tenor be sent to the German emperor. Then we can wait for other countries to mediate for us with Germany. We also pray that letters be sent to the American and French governments, so as to show the desire to find out, apart from the results of military preparations, what foreigners and missionaries' establishments have suffered through this outbreak of rebellion, to make a list of the losses of life and property, and then to apply for an edict granting charitable compensation as a proof of the throne's merciful kindness and unwillingness to have guiltless people involved in their delinquencies.

"Fourth—We also beg that a decree may be issued giving authority to the viceroys and governors to do all that is possible to find out, apart from the results of military preparations, what foreigners and missionaries' establishments have suffered through this outbreak of rebellion, to make a list of the losses of life and property, and then to apply for an edict granting charitable compensation as a proof of the throne's merciful kindness and unwillingness to have guiltless people involved in their delinquencies.

"Fifth—We would also beg that a decree be issued to the viceroys, governors and high military authorities of all provinces saying that if any disorderly criminals or mutinous soldiers are really annoying or harming well-conducted people or committing arson, assassination or acts of robbery, they have permission to suppress them as the opportunity affords and report the measures taken to the throne. This is the policy always followed by the viceroys in dealing with the rebels and hold of those from the outside. The capital must first be pacified and people's minds will then be quieted. Military discipline must be rigidly enforced before the morale of the troops can be raised."

PROTESTS POSTED IN CANTON.

Placards were posted in the streets of Canton this morning by British merchants protesting against the departure of Li Hung Chang and invoking all responsible men to unite in efforts to induce him to stay. Crowds of merchants thronged to the viceroys and begged him to remain, presenting on their knees a petition bearing the inscription "Yuan Shih Kai, please to stay and hold of those from the outside. The capital must first be pacified and people's minds will then be quieted. Military discipline must be rigidly enforced before the morale of the troops can be raised."

Li Hung Chang appeared much moved, but told the petitioners he dared not disobey the mandate from Peking. He urged them to unite in efforts to induce him to stay and hold of those from the outside. The capital must first be pacified and people's minds will then be quieted. Military discipline must be rigidly enforced before the morale of the troops can be raised."

The populace then tried to block the streets and keep the city gates shut so as to prevent Li Hung Chang from leaving the Yamen, but soldiers cleared the passage and he finally embarked on board the Chinese steamship Anping with a suite of 281 persons and sailed direct for Hongkong.

Before sailing the viceroy acknowledged to the American consul, Mr. Wade, that he received an edict from the empress last night appointing him viceroy of Chi Li and commanding him to proceed to Hongkong immediately. He will return to Canton.

WILD RUMORS ABOUT RUSSIA.

New York, July 20.—A dispatch to the Tribune from London says: The wild rumor in print is a story that Russia has been secretly intriguing with Prince Tuan, and that Li Hung Chang is behind these negotiations. The Chinese camorra which has defied the civilized powers will be anxious to create a record for Li Hung Chang. Rumors of this kind will be started wherever there is a press writer at a Chinese seaborne credulous enough to cable them to Europe or America. The czar reigns over Russia and he cannot have any secret dealings with a red-headed assassin like Prince Tuan.

The anomalous condition of de facto warfare which has not been legalized by a declaration of war is illustrated by Li Hung Chang's journey northward after a consultation with the British officials at Hongkong.

NO FRIEND OF ENGLAND.

He cannot be regarded as a friend of England, for he has appointed Black Flag bandits and ruffians to the northward to disturb the peace of the Yangtze region; nor is he a trustworthy peace-maker, since he is known to be a bitter opponent of foreign interests, yet he is allowed to proceed on his journey to Tientsin and probably will pass from the camp of the allies at Tientsin to the capital, where he will assume the governorship of Pe Chi Li during the period of foreign invasion. Practical men are asking whether he would not be a more useful peace-maker and negotiator if he were detained on some vessel of war, and whether the

Women as Well as Men Are Made Miserable by Kidney Trouble.

Kidney trouble preys upon the mind, discourages and lessens ambition; beauty, vigor and cheerfulness soon disappear when the kidneys are out of order or diseased.

Kidney trouble has become so prevalent that it is not uncommon for a child to be born afflicted with weak kidneys. If the child urinates too often, if the urine scalds the flesh or if, when the child reaches an age when it should be able to control the passage, it is yet afflicted with bed-wetting, depend upon it, the cause of the difficulty is kidney trouble, and the first step should be towards the treatment of these important organs. This unpleasant trouble is due to a diseased condition of the kidneys and bladder and not to a habit as most people suppose.

Women as well as men are made miserable by kidney and bladder trouble, and both need the same great remedy. The mild and the immediate effect of Swamp-Root is soon realized. It is sold by druggists, in fifty-cent and one dollar sizes. You may have a sample bottle by mail free, also pamphlet telling all about it, including many of the thousands of testimonial letters received from sufferers cured. In writing Dr. Kilmer & Co., Binghamton, N. Y., be sure and mention this paper.

It is not clear that anything is gained by the shallow pretense that the Chinese government, which is either openly directing the anti-foreign movement or is utterly unable to control it.

LI HUNG'S CUNNING.

There is every reason to believe that the blood stained camorra at Peking has ordered Li Hung Chang to Pe Chi Li in order to employ him in setting one foreign power against another and in breaking up concerted action. He will be a diplomatic accessory after the fact and will be passed through the allied fleets and camps to the capital, where his head will be cut off if he declines to serve the government of assassination.

Men who have passed many years in China are utterly hopeless in their comments upon the present situation. They assert that the Manchus are fighting for their life and power, and that it will not spare any effort to set the furious mobs in motion against the foreign concessions at Shanghai, Nanking, Hankow, Chefoo, and other places. Some of the best informed men favor united action of the powers, by which Nanking shall be proclaimed the capital so that capital can be made to the Chinese themselves against the despotic and arrogant Manchus, but they admit in the next breath that this policy cannot be carried out since both Russia and Japan will not consent to the degradation of Peking when each hopes ultimately to occupy and to hold it permanently.

JAPAN KNOWS HER MIND.

No power except Japan apparently knows its own mind, and while battleships and naval squadrons are sent out there is no settled policy, but a general reluctance to substitute de jure for de facto warfare and break off diplomatic relations with a government which has virtually declared its intention to destroy the foreigners and the destruction of all alien interests.

Sheng is still giving out contradictory messages respecting the legations and there are highly imaginative estimates of the strength of the Chinese armies in the field. The real trend of events is disclosed by two facts—first, that the Chinese government is forcing the foreign powers to stand together and fight by its own aggressive action, and second, that the powers, while banding together, have their eyes fixed upon spheres of interest where each must ultimately assume the responsibilities of government. This was illustrated by Mr. Broderick's admission that the consul general at Shanghai had been empowered to give assurances of British support to the viceroys in the Yangtze region.

DILKE ON THE SITUATION.

New York, July 20.—A dispatch to the Journal and Advertiser from London says:

During the course of an interview Sir Charles Dilke, the former liberal cabinet minister and the statesman who is universally regarded as being the principal authority in England on foreign affairs, said that he regarded the latest news from China as extremely grave.

"Up to the invasion of Russian territory by the Chinese troops there was nothing to lead us to suppose that there was a driving and controlling government in Peking," he said.

"The invasion of the Russian Amur province is a visible sign that there is a responsible government still in power. If China was, as we have believed until now, a chaotic mass of lawless tribes, neither of the contending parties would have time or opportunity to carry their hostile operations into a foreign country."

"The Chinese attack upon Russia has all the appearance of being an act of the imperial government at Peking, and the only interpretation to be placed upon this move is that the responsible Chinese government at Peking has proclaimed war upon Russia and upon the powers."

"In this connection I must confess that I am much impressed by the fact that Li Hung Chang should have felt it incumbent upon him to comply with the instructions to proceed to Peking, which have reached him from the imperial government there. It is extremely significant. This constitutes another proof that there is a responsible imperial government in control at Peking."

Redistribution of Troops Plans.

San Francisco, Cal., July 20.—Plans for the redistribution of United States forces in order to have as many troops as possible available for service in China, grow daily more definite. The Meade and Hancock, whose sailing dates will be about August 1, will carry the remainder of the troops of the Fifteenth infantry, the Third cavalry and Third artillery, and 500 marines. The Ninth infantry will also go from here early in August. The First cavalry, comprising eight troops, will go direct from Seattle, on the transport Glenogle, which has been chartered to carry them. The horses of the Third cavalry will be shipped here on the Arctic August 2, 20 of the horses of the Ninth cavalry will go on the Strathgyle August 7, and the remainder will be shipped from Seattle. The horses for the First cavalry will probably be sent out from Seattle on the Athenian.

Called to Denver.

Oakland, Cal., July 20.—Rev. Robt. F. Coyle, of this city, has received a telegraphic call to the Central Presbyterian church of Denver, where salary being fixed at \$5,000, with the understanding that some residence in the choicest part of the city.

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